(c) During 1985-86, Rs. 30.80 crores was sanctioned as Central assistance to Andhra Pradesh in the month of June. The sanction for Central assistance for the current drought is likely to be issued shortly.

(d) A number of long-term measures have been taken by the Government of India for reducing the incidence and intensity of drought conditions. These measures include increasing the area under irrigation, drought prone area programme, Soil & Water Conservation Programme, Dryland Farming, Crop Insurance, Afforestation, Development of improved and drought resistant varieties of seeds, National Rural Employment Programme, Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme, Drinking Water Programmes, Small & Marginal Farmers Assistance Programme etc.

Farnings from advertisements by AIR and Doordarshan

*175. SHRI SYED AHMAD HASHMI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state what is the amount collected by the All India Radio and Doordarshan from advertisements during the financial year 1984-85 and from April. 1985 to October, 1985?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): During 1984-85 the gross collections of AIR and Doordarshan from commercials were respectively Rs. 16.35 crores and Rs. 31.43 crores. The corresponding earnings during April to October 1985, were respectively, Rs. 9.85 crores and Rs. 30.35 crores.

Export of green vegetables from Delhi to Gulf countries

*176. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether green vegetables are exported from Delhi to Gulf countries;

(b) if so, the quantity and value thereof during the last three months;

(c) whether this is one of the reasons for the rise in prices of vegetables in Delhi; and

(d) if so, the steps Government are taking to make the vegetables available to consumers in Delhi at reasonable rates?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) It is estimated that around 90 tons valued at Rs. 6 lakhs have been exported during the last three months from Delhi.

(c) The prices of vegetables in Delhi during 1985 have not been rising continuously. These have displayed the normal fluctuations in response to seasonal factors as well as short-term shifts in supply and demand brought about by local phenomenon. The export of a small quantity of vegetables from Delhi is not likey to have any significant effect on the prices of vegetables.

(d) With a view to reducing the seasonal upsurge in the prices of vegetables, which causes hardship to consumers, especially of the weaker and vulnerable sections of the population. Government have adpoted both short and long-term measures. The short-term measures include the selling of fruits and vegetables by Super Bazar. Delhi, through its mobile vans. and the opening of retail vegetable shops by the National Dairy Development Board. The National Agricultural Cooperaive Marketing Federation also makes available to the Super Bazar and the Delhi Civil Supplies Corporation onions and potatoes at the wholesale level at prices which are significantly lower than the market prices. The long-term measures include the launching of a Centrally sponsored scheme in the Seventh Plan for increasing vegetable production in the periphery of Delhi along with other big cities.